



ADJC TODAY

The mission of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections is to enhance public protection by changing the delinquent thinking and behaviors of juvenile offenders committed to the Department.

JANET NAPOLITANO, GOVERNOR

DAVID A. GASPAR, DIRECTOR

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Research & Development: A Key to ADJC's Success



For some time now we have talked about the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections' (ADJC) commitment to responsibility, accountability, and quality.

The ADJC Research & Development (R&D) Section is one of the many work units within the Department that contributes to fulfilling all three functions daily.

Responsibility: The ADJC R&D Section generates the biannual secure population forecast and quarterly management forecast. This allows the Department to plan and budget resources in a timely and strategic manner.

Accountability: One of the major ongoing activities within R&D is the annual outcome study that provides recidivism data on juveniles who have completed Department programs. To date, more than 5,000 juveniles are being tracked to determine their success over time at life in the community long after a length of stay in an ADJC secure facility and the subsequent community supervision. The R&D Section also facilitates audits of new and existing programs to determine their effectiveness. Additionally, in cooperation with important partners, R&D conducts a research study on ADJC juveniles who are released and re-offend and are placed on adult probation.

Quality: The ADJC R&D Section provides a leadership role in juvenile justice research by producing complex statistical analyses of ADJC parole offices in relationship to parolees success rates. This leadership role was acknowledged recently when Dr. John Vivian, ADJC Research & Development Administrator, was selected as the Counselor at Large of the Western Society of Criminology. R&D also assists internal and external committees with statistical needs including the ADJC Minority Over Representation Group and the Statewide Building Blocks Research Advisory Committee.

As we strive to become even better at what we do, as well as to do it in a more cost effective manner - responsibility, accountability, and quality - in every aspect of the Department will be the vehicles that take us to our destination of enhancing public protection by reducing the risk level of juvenile offenders committed to the Department. E

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ADJC Begins Comprehensive Evaluation of Programs

A team of evaluators has completed the first audit of an Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections' (ADJC) program to determine how well it is complying with the Department's goals.

ADJC begins audits to reflect Value # 7: "We value continuous improvement and learning in all individuals."

The audit was conducted pursuant to ADJC Policy 4020, which states that new and existing programs shall be monitored and evaluated to ensure that they support our mission of changing delinquent thinking and behavior, are based on clearly stated objectives, and include an ongoing effort to improve the quality of programs over time.

This effort conforms with the ADJC Values, specifically, Value # 7, which states that the Department values "continuous improvement and learning in all individuals" and Value # 8, which commits ADJC to endeavors that foster "excellence, innovation, and quality practices based on good data and research."

The initial audit focused on the behavior management portion of the Limit and Lead program that is used throughout ADJC to teach appropriate pro-social behaviors to youth.

The audit provided a wide array of valuable data that will help the Department identify areas where the Limit and Lead program is proving effective and where there are aspects that can be improved. These findings were based on a comprehensive four-week evaluation in which three-member teams from the audit task force observed interactions between youth and staff, reviewed logs, and monitored behavior management groups. É

Director Announces Changes In Key Personnel

Director David A. Gaspar has announced the following personnel changes:

- C The position of Division Director of Youth Management Systems has been re-evaluated by the Arizona Department of Administration and is now an Assistant Director level position. Tom Gronski continues to be a major contributor at the policy level of this agency.
- C With the move of Esteban Veloz from the Assistant Director for Psychiatric and Medical Health Services to Chief for Strategic Diversity and Service Equity Initiatives, Dean Neitzke has been promoted to Assistant Director for Psychiatric and Medical Health Services.
- C With Bernie Warner leaving the agency for a career opportunity with the Florida Department of Juvenile Corrections, Director Gaspar has asked Peggy Eggemeyer to serve as Interim Assistant Director for Community Corrections.
- C Katrina Montano has moved to the position of Restorative Justice Administrator within the Legal Systems Division.
- C Replacing Katrina Montano as Victims' Rights Administrator is Sue Johnston.
- C Phil Lopez has been promoted to Due Process Proceedings Administrator in the Legal Systems Division.
- C Replacing Phil Lopez as the Attorney General Liaison is Sebrina Ayers Fisher. É

Why Be Concerned About The Interstate Compact For Juveniles?

Since 1955, the Interstate Compact for Juveniles has provided the sole authority for regulating the transfer of juvenile probation and parole supervision across state boundaries. All fifty states are signatories.

The Interstate Compact provides a mechanism for:

- Returning runaways who cross state lines,
- Supervising juveniles on probation or parole when families move or the youth is placed with a family member,
- Returning juveniles who escape from institutions or abscond from probation or parole,
- Returning juveniles pending a court appearance, including dependency.

The existing Compact was created when approximately 200 offenders were supervised outside of the states where they were adjudicated. According to the Council of State Governments, nationally more than 20,000 juvenile parolees and probationers are now supervised under the Compact.

The existing Compact is not working. Examples include:

- Arizona's Attorney General has expressed concerns about its use under Arizona law.
- There are three amendments to the Compact. Few states have adopted all, so the rules vary from state to state.
- There are no record keeping requirements and no national tracking.
- There is no consistency in supervision from state to state.
- There is no recognition of victims' rights.
- Quite often juveniles fall through the cracks.

It has been more than 20 years since the Compact has been revised. A bill before the Arizona Legislature, HB2106, is a part of a national effort underway for each signatory state to adopt the revised compact language. Representative Steve Tully, R - Phoenix, is the sponsor of the bill. The intent of the new Compact is to address issues related to victims, improved supervision for juveniles, and enforcement.

The new compact will:

1. Most importantly, provide for better and more consistent supervision of juveniles,
2. Recognize the rights and interests of victims,
3. Allow states to operate under the same set of rules,
4. Provide greater flexibility for adaptation to each state's system, and
5. Provide a mechanism for input by individual states.

The proposed Compact language is a product of the cooperative efforts of many organizations, some of which are the: National District Attorneys Association, National Institute of Corrections, National Centers for Victims of Crime, Child Welfare League of America, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

As the entity responsible for managing the Interstate Compact for Juveniles in Arizona, ADJC strongly supports adoption of the new language.

Roughly, 852 juvenile probationers and parolees moved in or out of the state under the Interstate Compact this past year. É

A revised Interstate Compact will allow ADJC to better enhance public protection by changing the delinquent thinking and behaviors of juvenile offenders committed to the Department.

BCS Education Sets Up Job Clothing Bank for Females

The teachers at Black Canyon School (BCS) want the shirt off your back, and the rest of your office-appropriate attire as well - to help our youth find the pathway to a meaningful future.

Black Canyon principal Sherry Carlson and Transition Coordinator Janet Cole are starting a clothing bank for young women who are getting ready to leave the secure facility.

Kristin Bradfield, a teacher at BCS, plans to develop a stockpile of office-wear in various sizes that can be used by these young women. The clothing would be the kind of thing that could be worn to a job interview or to work once employment is obtained.

The young women would pay for these clothing items through a reward system that will be tied to the points they earn during their six-hour classroom day. The better their behavior, the more points they will earn.

"This is not a giveaway program," said Ms. Carlson. "The youth will have to earn what they receive."

A common challenge for these young women is that they need help in developing an appropriate work wardrobe. Many of them come from homes where money is scarce and they have no clothing that's appropriate for a job interview or to wear to work once they find a job.

"We believe there are many women in our Department who would be willing to donate usable, professional clothing that our girls can wear when they go out and seek employment," said Janet Cole, a transition coordinator for the Department.

Donated clothing should be clean, of modest design, and the kind of clothing women wear to work. This would include dresses, skirt ensembles, and pant suits. Dress shoes are also needed.

"There is a wide range of sizes needed among our girls, so we need donations to reflect that variety," Ms. Carlson said.

Anyone willing to make clothing donations or seeking further information should call the Black Canyon Education Office at (623) 780-1303, or Ms. Cole at (602) 255-3518. É

MIS Update

by Susan Lucero, Information Technology Specialist, Management Information Systems

In an effort to better assist the staff of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC), the Management Information Systems (MIS) Division continues to review current usage and application of the Department's technology resources. In light of this, MIS recommends doing the following periodically:

- Review your H:\Drive to remove old unused and/or duplicate documents. This can be done by opening up MY COMPUTER icon on your computer and double clicking until you reach the document you want to delete. Right click on the document and select delete.

If you need assistance, please call MIS at (602) 542-0289. É

ADJC Today is the employee newsletter of the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections. Unless noted otherwise, articles are written by Communications Division staff. For comments or input, please contact the Communications Office at (602) 542-4497. This document is available in an alternative format upon request.

The Clothing Bank provides BCS' female youth additional tools for securing meaningful employment.